



**GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**
Washington, D.C. 20230

June 24, 2002

The Honorable Richard B. Cheney
President of the Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510-0010

Dear Mr. President:

Enclosed is a draft bill entitled the "Hague Agreement Implementation Act," together with a Statement of Purpose and Need and supporting materials.

The bill implements the Geneva Act of the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs done at Geneva on July 2, 1999. It amends Federal patent law to add a new part that specifies administrative procedures to be followed by design patent applicants applying for international protection of designs. With the exception of extending the patent term from fourteen to fifteen years from grant, the bill does not make any substantive change in United States design patent law. The bill also provides that the Act will not become effective until the date of entry into force of the treaty with respect to the United States.

We have been advised by the Office of Management and Budget that there is no objection from the standpoint of the Administration's program to the submission of this legislative proposal to the Congress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Theodore W. Kassinger", is written on a white, torn-edge rectangular piece of paper.

Theodore W. Kassinger

Enclosures

IDENTICAL LETTERS SENT TO:

The Honorable Dennis Hastert
Speaker of the House
of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-6501

The Honorable Thomas A. Daschle
Senate Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510-1601

The Honorable Trent Lott
Senate Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510-7010

The Honorable Dick Armey
House Majority Leader
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-6503

The Honorable Richard Gephardt
House Minority Leader
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-6502

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510-6275

The Honorable Orrin G. Hatch
Ranking Minority Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510-6275

The Honorable F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr.
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-6216

The Honorable John Conyers
Ranking Minority Member
Committee on the Judiciary
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-6216